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# REPORT

ON THE

# ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

# DANTA STATE

FOR THE YEARS

1941-42 & 1942-43.





THE ADMINISTRATION REPORT  
OF THE  
**DANTA STATE**  
FOR THE  
**Two Years ending 31st October 1943.**

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CHAPTER 1.

General and Political.

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The Danta State is situated on the north frontier of Gujrat and on the southern line of Rajputana, in a local division called "NANI MARWAR". It lies between  $24^{\circ} 0'$  and  $24^{\circ} 23'$  north latitude and between  $72^{\circ} 40'$  and  $73^{\circ} 5'$  east longitude. Its extreme length from north to south and extreme breadth from east to west are 22 and 20 miles respectively.

GEOGRAPHICAL POSITION.

2. The State is bounded on the north by the Sirohi State, on the south by the Sudasana Taluka and the Gadhvada Thana (Saber Kantha Agency), on the east by the Idar State and on the west by the Palanpur State.

BOUNDARY.

3 The country is picturesque being almost entirely hilly with thick forest save for the southern and western portions which are somewhat plain and open. The Arvali Ranges throw their outlying arms forming numerous hills and valleys, the highest peak "GHODI" rising 2817 ft. above the sea level. The hills are covered over with considerable forest growth and owing to the abundance of water, form natural habitat for wild animals like tiger, panther, hyena, bear, pig, etc. The Country is well drained by numerous small streams which flow throughout the rainy season and empty their contents into either of the two important rivers, the "Sabarmati" and the "Saraswati". The former is the bigger of the two and for a considerable length forms the dividing boundary between the Idar and the Danta States. The latter river, though smaller, is held very sacred by Hindus all over India. It rises from the "Managar" hill in the extreme north, flows past the famous temple of Shri Koteshwar, then runs right through the very heart of this State and subsequently enters the territories of the Palanpur and the Baroda States at a village called Mokeswar. She is also known as "Kumarka" or the Virgin River for the fact that like other rivers she does not join either the sea or a big river but disappears in the Runn (desert) of Cutch.

PHYSICAL ASPECT.

4. The climate is dry and temperate all throughout the year, the maximum and minimum of temperatures recorded being 109° F.

CLIMATE & RAIN-FALL.

and 46° F. in 1941-42 and 115° F. and 48° F. in 1942-43 respectively. The hot weather in summer days is considerably relieved by the cool breezes in the evening and early morning. The rains break out generally at the fag end of June and continue well through July, August, and September. The monsoon is at its best in August. The normal annual rain-fall is over 40".

5. The approximate total area of the State is 347 sq. miles and the population which is scattered

AREA, POPULATION AND  
LANGUAGES.

in about 180 villages is 31,110 persons (males 16,218 and females 14,892)

according to the census of 1941, as against 26,172 persons (males 13,801 and females 12,371) of the previous census. Thus during the last decade the population has increased by 18% which is an index of the prosperity, happiness and contentment of the people in general under the present regime. Out of the total population, 27,810 are Hindus, 2,968 Mohomedans and 332 professing other religions. The proportion of population to area is 89 per square mile, which is low, indeed, but is mainly due to greater portion of the State being hilly and covered with jungle. The prevailing languages are Gujrati and Marwari, while the Bhil tribes have a dialect of their own which is a mixture of local Gujrati and Marwari. The court language is Gujrati.

6 The Ruling Prince of Danta is the head of the Parmar clan of Rajputs of the Fire-Race, being

EARLY HISTORY.

a descendant in direct line from Emperor

Vikramaditya, the epoch-making monarch in the ancient history of India. The Parmars, who have nearly always remained in or near the country of Malwa round Ujjain, are said to have at one time held the whole or at least a major portion of Rajputana, which fact gave rise to a popular saying “*पृथ्वी परमारों तणी*” meaning thereby that the earth belongs to Parmars. Raja Dharni Varah, one of the descendant of Vikram who ruled in Rajputana, divided his kingdom amongst his nine brothers, himself keeping only the province of Sind. This division even to the present day is referred to in Rajputana, as “*नवकोटी मारवाड*”. The descendants of Dharani Varah ruled Sind in peace for more than three centuries, until the persistent and pressing invasions of Mahommedans on that province forced them to retire elsewhere. Raja Shri Jasrajji, the then Ruler of Sind, came to Mount Arasur, conquered the surrounding country and laid the foundation of the present State of Danta, in 1068 A. D.

The successors of Raja Shree Jasrajji considerably extended and consolidated their domain, so much so that at one time the State included the Santpur Tehsil upto Rohira of Sirohi, a tract in Mewar as far as the present Kotra cantonment, a portion of Idar upto Khedbrahma, eastern portion of Palanpur, Kheralu Mahal of Baroda, Gadhvada District

and Sudasna. Of these the Jagir of Sudasna was given by Maharanaji Shri Gaj Singhji to his younger brother Jaswant-Singhji for maintenance in 1682 A. D., while the Gadhvada District was given in Jagir to Gadhia Koli Chiefs at varying periods for their services to the State. The Kheralu Mahal now included in the Baroda State was mortgaged to the Suba of Gujrat by Maharana Jethmalji in 1650 A. D. for financing military operations against Rao Jagannath of Idar which resulted in the latter's expulsion from Idar to Polo (the present Vijayanagar State under the Western India States Agency). The long protracted wars between the Raos of Idar and the Rulers of Danta during the 16th and 17th centuries had brought much ruination to the Danta State and had resulted in the dismemberment of the outlying districts.

During the time of Emperor Akbar, one of his sons Prince Salim having quarrelled with him had fled from Delhi. He tried to seek shelter in various States of Rajputana, but for fear of incurring the wrath of the Emperor, none dared to shelter him. At last the Prince sought refuge with Rana Askaranji of Danta (then known as Tarsangmo) who, true to his family tradition inscribed on the State Crest, “शरणागत साधार” readily gave him shelter as befitting a true Kshatriya. After some few years the Prince went to Kathiawar, but was seized by Rao Bharmalji of Cutch and was handed over to the Emperor. The Emperor gave the District of Morvi to Rao Bharmalji for this service. However, when the



Emperor and his son had been reconciled and the former was made acquainted with the gallant conduct of Rana Shri Askaranji of Danta towards his son, the Emperor was so much pleased with the fact that as a mark of appreciation he soon after sent a dress of honour and granted the title of "MAHARANA" to Rana Shri Askaranji and Prince Salim sent to him a jewelled signet ring.

7. The State had entered into Political relations with the British Government in 1812 A. D.

On the outbreak of the Great European war (1914-1918) the State offered to place its entire resources at the disposal of the Government, and contributed a sum of about a lakh of Rupees towards war expenses.

The Ruling families most closely connected with Danta are those of Tehri, Narsinghgarh, Rajgarh, Sant, Kadana and Muli, while the house of Sudasna as stated above is its offshoot. The Ruling Family of Danta is matrimonially connected with the houses of Udaipur, Banswara, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, Idar, Sirohi, Dhrangadra and Dungarpur.

8. The present Ruling Prince of Danta, Maharana Shri Sir Bhawani Singhji Bahadur K. C. S. I, was born on Bhadrpad Sud 8th Samvat year 1956 corresponding to the 13th September 1899 A. D. had his training at Mayo college, Ajmer, and was for a number of years associated with the,

administration of the State before he ascended to the Gadi on the 10th March 1926. He was created K. C. S. I. on the 2nd January 1939. The Ruler is a member of the Chamber of Princes (Narendra Mandal) in his own right.

The State is entitled to a permanent dynastic salute of nine guns. The accession to the Gadi is governed by the Rule of Primogeniture. The State enjoys independent sovereign powers with full civil and criminal jurisdiction with authority to make its own legislation.

Over and above the contributions made to the different War Funds in the previous year, the Darbar made further contributions as follows:-

1.	H. E. the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund ... ..	Rs. 10,000
2.	Indian Red Cross Society and St. John's Ambulance Association ... ..	Rs. 500
3	War Fête at Mt. Abu ... ..	Rs. 350
4.	Rajputana Flood Relief Fund. ... ..	Rs 1,000

Besides a sum of Rs 2,500 was collected by voluntary subscription from the subjects and servants of the State and was contributed to H. E. the Viceroy's war Purposes Fund.

PARTICULARS OF THE  
RULER'S FAMILY.

9 The Darbar's first marriage took place with the sister of Maharaj Shree Bijai Singhji of Raoti (Jodhpur); and his second with the sister of His Highness the Raja Saheb Bahadur of Sohawal State, a State under Bundelkhand Agency, C. I. Both the Maharani Sahebas died in 1923, the latter leaving behind her one Maharaj Kumari Saheba. The present Maharaniji Shri Champawatiji Saheban is a sister of Thakur Nahar Singhji Saheb of Auwa a premier noble of Marwar. By her the Maharanaji Saheb Bahadur has had four Maharaj Kumars and five Maharaj Kumari Sahebas. Of the Surviving three sons, Maharaj Kumar Shri Prithi Raj Singhji Bahadur (Heir-Apparent), Maharaj Kumar Shri Madhusudan Singhji Saheb and Maharaj Kumar Shri Raghubir Singhji Saheb were born on the 22nd July 1928, the 30th May 1933, and the 4th December 1934, respectively. The Heir-Apparent is being educated at home under the guidance of three well qualified and experienced tutors. The eldest Maharaj Kumari Sahiban has been married to Shriman Raja Shri Ram Singhji Saheb B. A., of Khandela a premier Shekhawati noble of Jaipur State.

Among other members of the Ruling family are Maharaj Shri Laxman Singhji Saheb, aged 18 years, the nephew, Maharaj Shri Dalpat Singhji Saheb, aged 62, the uncle, Maharaj Shri Prithi Singhji Saheb aged 38 and Maharaj Shri Narayan Singhji Saheb aged 36, cousins of the Maharanaji Saheb Bahadur. Maharaj Shri Laxaman Singhji Saheb is at present receivnig

education at home along with the Heir-Apparent. The last two named have had their training at the Mayo College, and are associated with the administration of the State as Dewan and Revenue Commissioner, respectively.

10 The administration of the State is carried on under the personal guidance and direction of the Darbar, with the assistance of the Dewan. The authority and the powers of the heads of Departments are well defined and each within his own sphere is independent of the other. In important matters, however, the Darbar is always accessible for advice and guidance; and the success and efficiency so far attained in the administration are mainly due to the Darbar's easy accessibility and conscientious application to the affairs of the State.

11. The State is in direct political relations with the Crown Representative through the Honourable the Resident for Raiputana and is attached to the Western Rajputana States Agency, Jodhpur.

The political relations with the Paramount Power and the neighbouring states remained most friendly and cordial as usual.

12. During the years under report the Darbar visited the following places outside the State:—

Mount Abu, Ajmer, Masuda, Jodhpur, Bikaner, Ahmedabad, Rajkot and Banswara. Besides he twice toured through all the Mahals of the the State

13. During the years under report, the following distinguished guests visited the State:—  
DISTINGUISHED VISITORS.

1. Lt. Col. His Highness Maharaja Jam Shri Sir Digvijaya, Singhji Saheb Bahadur, G. C. I. E., K. C. S. I., A. D. C., of Nawanagar.
2. Her Highness the Maharani Sahiban of Nawanagar State.
3. His Highness Maharaja Shri Himmat Singhji Sahib Bahadur of Idar State.
4. His Highness of Dhrol State.
5. Shreeman Maharaj-Kumar Shri Daljeet Singhji Sahib Bahadur, (Heir-Apparant) of Idar State.
6. The Hono'ble Sir Arthur Lothian,  
K. C. I. E., C. S. I., I. C. S., Resident for Rajputana
7. Lady Lothian.
8. Major N. S. Alington, M. C,  
Political Agent, Western Rajputana States.
9. Mrs. Alington.
10. Lieut.-Colonel G. Kirkbride.  
Political Agent, Mewar & Southern Rajputana States
11. Mrs. Kirkbride.
12. Mr. M. Worth I. C. S.  
Secretary to the Resident for Rajputana.
13. Mrs. Worth.
14. Thakur Shri Prithi Singhji Sahib,  
C. I. E. of Sudasna.
15. Maharaj Shri Virbhadra Singhji Sahib,  
M. A. (Oxon.), Musahib-i-Ala, Dungarpur.

16. Maharaj Shri Lal Singhji Sahib,  
Dewan, Banswara State
17. Maharaj Shri Prabhunath Singhji Sahib,  
Member, State Council, Narsinghar State.
18. Sahebzada Shri Jabradast Khanji Sahib,  
of Palanpur State.
19. Rao Shri, Narayan Singhji Sahib, Masuda.
20. Raja Shri Ram Singhji Sahib,  
B. A., of Khandela, Jaipur.
21. Thakur Shri Nahar Singhji Sahib, Auwa.
22. Lt.-Col. Rao Bahadur Thakur Dalpat Singhji Sahib  
of Rohat, Jodhpur.
23. Thakur Shri Mohobat Singhji, of Motagam.
24. Seth Durgaprasad S. Laskari,  
Mill-Owner, Ahmedabad.

#### NOTABLE EVENTS OF THE YEARS.

14. (1) Due to the exigencies of war, the birthdays of His Imperial Majesty, the king Emperor, which fell on 11-6-1942 & 2-6-1943, were very quietly observed. The days were observed as holidays and prayers were offered as usual for long and happy life of His Imperial Majesty and the Royal Family, and for the Victory of the Allied Powers.
- (2) For the same reasons, the celebrations of the birthday anniversaries of the Darbar on 1-8-1942 & 7-8-1943, and those of Shreeman Maharaj Kumar Sahib on 17-8-1942 & 7-8-1943 respectively, were

divested of their usual eclat and formal grandeur. As such therefore they were very quietly observed. Neither guns were fired nor Durbar held. Only prayers were offered as usual for long and happy life of these personages and for the Victory of the Allied Powers. Alms and clothings to the needy and sweets to the school children were distributed as usual.

- (3) The most memorable event of the period under report was the Tikka ceremoney of Shreemam Maharaj Kumar Shri Prithiraj Singhji Sahib Bahadur, the Heir Apparent of the State, held on 7th Decmber 1941, when his engagement with the third Princess of Dungarpur State was solemnized according to Vedic rites and was duly and officially, announced, to the great joy and satisfaction of the people of the State.
- (4) In accordance with the desire expressed by His Imperial Majesty, the King Emperor, 21<sup>st</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> May 1943, as Tunisia Victory Days, marking as they did the successful turn in the tide of War in favour of the Allied Powers. Mass prayers were offered in the State for still more glorious.
- (5) Melancholy news of the passing away of the following illustrious membrs of the Royal Family of England, and of the Princely Order in India,

were received in the State with much heartfelt sorrow and concern:—

1. His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent.
2. His Royal Highness the Duke of Connought.
3. General His Highness Maharaja Shri Sir Ganga Singhji Bahadur, G. C. S. I., G. C. V. O., G. B. E., K. C. B., LL. D., A. D. C., of Bikaner State.
4. Major His Highness Maharaja Shri Sir Ghanashyam Singhji Bahadur G. C. I. E., K. C. S. I., of Dhrangadhra State
5. Lieutenant His Highness Maharaj Rana Shri Sir Rajendra Singhji Bahadur K.C.S.I., of Jhalawar State.
- 6 His Highness Maharaja Sahib of Charkhari State.

In view of the cordial and most friendly relations existing between this State, Paramount Power and the States of Bikaner, Dhrangadhra, Jhalawar, and Charkhari, all the offices and schools were closed for a day as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed souls.

15. Mr. R. P. Kanhere, B. Ag., Naib Dewan, was appointed to work, over and above his other

CHANGES IN PERSONNEL

duties, as State Tyre Rationing Authority, with effect from 16th July 1942.



Mr. Prahlad J. Pathak, B. A., LL. B., District Magistrate, was appointed to work, over and above his other duties, as State Textile Commissioner, with effect from 6th July 1943.

Mr. Nathalal G. Dave, Revenue Officer, was appointed to work, over and above his other duties, as Sugar, Price and Gur Controller in the State, with effect from 7th July 1942, 9th July 1942 and 26th August 1943 respectively.



## CHAPTER II.

### Land Administration.

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For administrative convenience the State is divided into five divisions or Mahals, viz.,

#### ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS.

(1) Danta, (2) Mataji, (3) Hadad, (4) Tarsang and (5) Joita; each except the first being under the charge of a Mahalkari who is also a Magistrate. The Danta Mahal is under the direct charge of the Revenue Commissioner. One Circle Inspector or Kaltru has been appointed to each of the five Mahals. All are under the supervision of the Revenue Commissioner.

2. Maharaj Shri Narayan Singhji Saheb, Revenue commissioner remained in charge of the Department all throughout the year.

#### PERSONNEL.

3. The prevailing land assessment system in vogue is the Bhag-Batai or share-rental system. It has by long experience, been found beneficial to the conjoined interests of the State and the ryots. Its success is mainly due to the constant vigilance and efficient supervision of the Revenue Commissioner and the avoidance of delay directed by him in weighing the crops.

#### LAND REVENUE SYSTEM.

4. All the cultivators are tenants-at-will. But such perennial perpetuity is maintained by the

#### NATURE OF TENANCY

State that cultivators have been occupying and cultivating the same land since generations without any disturbance and no need for transfer arises in a majority of cases where the cultivators belong to the Kunbi, Muman or Rajput community, provided that the family tree does not cease to exist.

5. The soil in some part of Danta and Joita Mahals is

#### NATURE OF SOIL.

alluvial sandy, formed by the aqueous action of rivers, and that in the other Mahals is clayey loam. The soil is on the whole rich and fertile and is capable of producing good crops.

6. The agricultural population chiefly consists of Dungari

#### AGRICULTURAL POPULATION.

Bhils, Garassias, Kolis, Thakardas, Kunbis, Mumans and Rajputs. The

Bhils, and Garassias, who constitute a majority of the agrarian population, are very backward and hence poor agriculturists. They resort to a sort of shifting and scattered cultivation since self-sufficiency is their motto. They do not differ from the gypsies in their intinerency and impermanence of an abode and are averse to any idea of possession or ownership. So shifty are they even in the social sphere that no bonds of kindredship or affinity can uproot their instinctive bohemianism. They can see their way to stake their most near and dear, even their wives and children in their perpetual search for unseen adventures.

Since a majority of the State's agrarian population consists of these primitive people it has been found very difficult to effect a revenue settlement or to replace the present nature of tenancy by any other permanent sort.

Attempts have been made in the past, without result, to effect a change in their methods of life, since temperamentally they are found to be averse to cast off their conventional mantle. Free primary education is being imparted by the State with a view to ameliorate their condition all round but they have fanatically been refusing to send their children to such schools. It may be suggested here by the successful experimenters in the realms of education that compulsory education can solve the difficulty. But facts are bitter. As already mentioned above they do not claim affinity or tie of any sort with any body or anything and any such step on the part of the State would only threaten a rising or emigration on their part as has been already witnessed in the past.

The only reliable cultivators are therefore the Mumans, Kunbis and Rajputs who are in a minority and it is therefore that the staple food produced by the State is just enough to make both ends meet.

7. Statistics relating to the agricultural stock in the State for the two years under report are put in a tabular form below.

AGRICULTURAL STOCK.

There was no serious out-break of any epidemic among the

cattle and the supply of fodder was generally sufficient throughout.

Particulars.	1941-42.	1942-43.
Oxen.	11,848	12,316
Cows.	19,305	20,125
Buffaloes.	10,418	11,618
Horses.	412	435
Mares.	181	210
Donkeys.	607	915
Goats & Sheep.	25,702	27,817
Ploughs.	5,924	6,159
Carts.	282	290

8. The chief Khariff or monsoon crops grown are maize, sesamum, castor-oil seeds coarse millets and cereals. Among the Rabi or cold weather crops are mainly wheat, gram and rapeseed.

9. Cattle-breeding and animal husbandry form the chief secondary occupations of the agricultural classes. The existence of vast tracts for grazing and the nominal fees charged by the State for the purpose have considerably encouraged this. Smaller village industries can be evolved out of forest products of the State but they cannot be accomplished by the State alone without the auxiliary aid of enterprizers and expert artizans. Any way a contract for the production of catechu out of Kher trees has

been given this year to a private enterprizer. The State is also considering to evolve other latent forest resources.

10 Total rain-fall recorded during the peiod under report  
 was 30 inches and 54 cents in 1941-42,  
 SEASON & OUTTURN. and 43 inches and 86 cents in 1942-

43. The former year's fall, although below the average had no adverse effects on the crops and their growth as it was evenly distributed. In the latter year the rainfall was very satisfactory as a result of which bumper harvest of crops was realized.

11. There are four irrigations tanks in the State, two of  
 which were newly constructed in the  
 IRRIGATION FOR CROPS. previous years and the remaining  
 two tanks which had been constructed as far back as 1899-  
 1900 were consolidated and reinforced in recent years with  
 a view to enhance their capacity to hold water. The Darbar  
 are further considering the scheme of constructing new  
 reservoirs and the scheme, if evolved as envisaged, is calculated  
 to bring a considerable tract of cultivable land under irriga-  
 tion. These tanks were not filled to their capacity in 1941-42  
 owing to insufficient rainfall but were full in 1942-43 and  
 water was supplied to surrounding lands. In 1942-43 there  
 was a marked demand for lands served by these tanks as a  
 result of which some considerable tract which used to remain  
 fallow hitherto has been newly brought under cultivation.  
 Besides the irrigation tanks the other means of watering crops  
 is furnished by the Sarans and wells. People by the river  
 side usually throw earthen bunds across the current and thus  
 divert water through channels or Sarans to their fields.

Sub-soil water in wells is found fairly well near the surface, at a depth of about 25 to 40 feet below the ground level, and a number of wells with Arath or Persian Wheels for lifting water are working all throughout the State.

12. The total number of pucca wells in the State was 807 & 836 in 1941-42 & 1942-43 respectively.

WELLS.

The State has always been enthusiastically following the policy of encouraging the ryots to sink an increased number of wells every year by helping them in all possible ways and thus has been ameliorating their task in the following manner:-

- (1) By grant of tagavi loan with or without interest repayable by small annual instalments.
- (2) By remission of the Vaje (Raj-Bhag) for a certain number of years.
- (3) By paying gratuitously the full expenses of construction.

13. With a view to help the ryots, tagavi advance at a low rate of interest were made to needy cultivators for bonafide productive purposes, viz., for the purchase of seed, cattle, impliments, sinking of wells, etc., to the extent of Rs. 8,326 & Rs. 12,945 during the years 1941-42 & 1942-43 respectively.

TAGAVI ADVANCE.

14. The total land revenue, including past arrears amounted to Rs. 83,585 & Rs. 116,125 during 1941-42 & 1942-43 respectively. The total expenditure of the Revenue Department, amounted to Rs. 8,439 & Rs. 10,341 during the years 1941-42 & 1942-43 respectively.

REVENUE RECEIPT AND  
EXPENDITURE.

## CHAPTER III.

### Revenue and Finance.

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Income from all sources during the years under review  
amounted to Rs 227490 & Rs. 314874 which  
INCOME, with the opening balances of Rs. 3206 &  
6351 bring the total receipts to Rs. 231,696 in 1941-42 and  
Rs. 321,225 in 1942-43.

2. The total expenditure during the years under report  
amounted to Rs. 225 345 in 1941-42 and  
EXPENDITURE. Rs. 306,118 in 1942-43 leaving a balance  
of Rs. 6,351 and Rs 15,107 at the close of the respective years.

3. The years under review, particularly the year 1942-43  
indicate a tendency towards rise in  
RISE IN REVENUE AND both the revenue and expenditure of  
EXPENDITURE, the State. While it can partly be  
ascribed to the rising prices of all commodities caused by the  
inflation of the money, control of prices of food stuffs and  
other essential articles of everyday use, and control of export  
and import of them, it can equally be attributed, at least  
in the case of this State, to the development of resources  
viz:- (1) new lands being enabled to be brought under  
cultivation and irrigation, and (2) overhauling and improving  
the methods and policy of the Abkari Department, and  
(3) utilization of forest products viz: katha or catechu  
production.



## STATEMENT SHOWING RECEIPTS.

No.	Description of Item.	1941-42. Rs.	1942-43 Rs.
1	Balance brought over. ... ..	3206	6351
2	Land Revenue. ... ..	83585	116125
3	Local Cess. ... ..	477	588
4	Customs Revenue. ... ..	64942	78825
5	Forest Revenue. ... ..	22828	27745
6	Opium & Abkari Revenue, including Bhang & Ganja. ... ..	25145	42103
7	Stamps & Registration. ... ..	3808	4212
8	Salami. ... ..	129	145
9	Law & Justice. ....	8040	11350
10	Recoveries of arrears. ... ..	10445	15154
11	Miscellaneous receipts. ... ..	3342	5145
12	House Sites. ... ..	3527	10152
13	Nazarana. ... ..	2222	3325
Grand Total.		2 31696	321225

## STATEMENT SHOWING DISBURSEMENTS.

No.	Description of Item.	1941-42 Rs.	1942-43. Rs.
1	Administration. ... ..	53,828	72,945
2	Police Deptt. ... ..	20,572	23,652
3	Education Deptt. ... ..	9,898	14,848
4	Medical Deptt. ... ..	10,858	15,455
5	Public Works Deptt. ... ..	13,450	17,385
6	Palace Deptt. ... ..	46,328	69,425
7	Raj Kharach. ... ..	7,058	10,052
8	Dharamada, Charity. ... ..	3,852	4,858
9	Kamgiri & Travelling. ... ..	5,565	7,642
10	Stables & Garage. ... ..	14,128	17,545
11	Topkhana. ... ..	2,758	3,848
12	Ghas-dana. ... ..	2,283	2,283
13	Taccavi advances. ... ..	8,326	12,945
14	Pension & Gratuity. ... ..	4,552	5,858
15	Body Guards. ... ..	11,122	13,148
16	Unforeseen Charges. ... ..	5,267	6,222
17	Contributions & Donations. ... ..	5,500	8,007
Total...		225,345	306,118
Balance carried forward		6,351	15,107
Grand Total...		231,696	321,225

## CHAPTER IV.

### PROTECTION.



#### (1) Law and Justice.

The State has got some local laws and regulations of its own. The Courts are guided principally by those laws and follow the spirit of British laws in practice and Procedure in matters both Civil and Criminal.

LEGISLATION.

2. For the administration of justice there are in the State the following courts with varying degrees of jurisdictional powers:—

COURTS.

- (1) The four Mahalkaris Courts at Shri Mataji, Hadad, Tarsang and Joita which are invested with powers to hear suits up to the value of Rs. 500 and also to exercise the powers of Second Class Magistrate within their respective Mahals.
- (2) The Court of the State Munsiff, which is empowered to hear all kinds of Civil Suits relating to property and other rights as well as money transactions upto the value of Rs. 5,000. The Court also exercises the powers of the First Class and District Magistrate.
- (3) Next comes in order the Court of the Naib Dewan, which is empowered to hear Civil Suits of the value of more than Rs. 5,000 on original side, up to Rs. 10,000.

It also exercises the powers of the District and Sessions Court and as such has the powers to hear appeals against the decisions of the State Munsiff and First Class Magistrate and District Magistrate.

- (4) The Court of the Dewan, which exercises the powers of High Court. On its original side it is endowed with full Civil powers to hear all kinds of suits and is also empowered to hear appeal over the decisions of the Court of the District and Sessions Judge.
- (5) The Hazur Court presided over by the Darbar, is the highest and the final Court of Appeal in all Civil and Criminal matters.

3. The working of the Civil Courts in the State, in respect of the original civil suits, is shown below in a tabular form:—

CIVIL SUITS.

PARTICULARS.	1941-42.	1942-43.
No. of suits on file, before the courts at the commencement of the year... ..	7	7
No. of suits freshly filed during the year. ... ..	15	14
Total of suits to be disposed. ...	22	21
No. of suits disposed during the year. ... ..	15	12
No. of suits pending disposal at the close of the year. ...	7	9
Total value of suits filed. ...	2,586-13-3.	5,510-10-0.

4. The working of the Criminal Courts in the State, in respect of the trial of offences, both CRIMINAL CASES. cognizable and non-cognizable, and of the offenders brought to trial, is given below in separate tables:—

Table I - Trial of Offences.

PARTICULARS.	1941-42.	1942-43.
No. of offences under trial at the commencement of the year ...	35	32
No. of offences brought to trial during the year ...	89	105
Total of offences on trial ...	124	137
No. of offences tried during the year ...	92	96
No. of offences pending trial at the close of the year ...	32	41

Table II - Trial of Offenders.

PARTICULARS.	1941-42.	1942-43.
No. of persons brought to trial during the year ...	185	208
No. of persons acquitted or discharged ...	63	60
No. of persons convicted ...	77	92
No. of persons committed or transferred ...	5	4
No. of persons absconded or died during trial... ..	3	4
No. of persons awaiting trial at the close of the year. ...	37	48

5. No Civil or Criminal Appeal was filed either in the Huzur Court or the Court of the Dewan during the period under review. Again no Criminal Appeal was filed in the Court of the Naib Dewan, though however, one Civil Appeal each, in 1941-42 and 1942-43 respectively, was filed in that Court. Both the Appeals were heard and disposed with the result that judgement of the Lower Courts were confirmed.

6 The working of the Civil Courts, in respect of the execution of decrees is tabulated below;—

## EXECUTION OF DECREES.

PARTICULARS.	1941-42.	1942-43
No. of applications brought over from the previous year. ...	7	7
No of applications made to Courts during the year ...	2	—
Total No of applications ...	9	7
No. of applications disposed during the year. ...	2	3
No. of applications remaining undisposed at the close of the year. ...	7	4
Total value of decrees presented for execution. ...	2,123-6-6.	2,067-11-6
Total value of decrees executed during the year. ...	55-11-0.	1,145-6-0
Total value of decrees remaining unexecuted at the close of the year. ...	2,067-11-0.	922-5-6

7. The system of direct services of summons between this State and the neighbouring States as well as the British territories is in force and has worked satisfactorily

DIRECT SYSTEM OF  
SUMMONS.

8. Extradition arrangements for the direct surrender of offenders, between this State and the neighbouring States of Palanpur, Sirohi, Udaipur, Jodhpur, with the single exception of Idar State, are in force as usual. The following statements give the details of extradition cases and the number of persons surrendered by and to, this State during the period under report:—

EXTRADITION.

**Surrendered by Danta State.**

	Cases.	Persons.
To British Authorities...	3	5
To Indian States. ...	2	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL...	5	7

**Surrendered to Danta State.**

	Cases.	Persons.
By British Authorities...	0	0
By Indian States. ...	2	3
	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL...	2	3

9. The Dewan is the Ex-Officio Registrar. Statement showing the <sup>number</sup> under of documents presented for registration, total value of the property involved therein <sup>and</sup> the amount of registration fee realized, during the period under report, is given below:-

REGISTRATION.

PARTICULARS.	1941-42.	1942-43.
No. of documents registered...	14	6
Value of property involved ...	8,259-4-3	435-0-0
Registration fee charged. ...	281-0-0	30-0-0

### ( 11 ) Police.

10. The total Police force, which is 150 rank and file, has been divided into ( i ) foot-Police for the maintenance of peace and order and ( ii ) mounted police for similar duties and for distant patrols.

POLICE.

Besides this, there is an irregular force of Body-Guards consisting of seventy persons out of whom 30 are armed with 303<sub>x</sub> rifles while the remaining forty are unarmed.

The ratios of the police force to the population and to the area are 1 to 174.5 heads of population and 1 to 23 square miles of territory respectively. The proportion may look a little high, but the hilly nature of the country the extended and long frontiers with foreign States all around, the turbulent nature of hill-tribes ( Bhill and Grassias ) inhabiting on both sides and



their mischevious propensities, all these and other considerations necessitate for the State the maintenance of a strong consolidated Police force for proper and effective Bandobast.

11. The Department remained throughout in charge of Mr. Udainath G. Purohit, the Superintendent of Police. Besides there is one Assistant Police Superintendent and five Sub-Inspectors of Police for the various districts to help him. The proper training of the Police in drill and discipline is looked after by these officers while of the Body-Guard by Mr. Sohan Singh as usual.

12. The Police Force is supplied with full uniform dresses and is armed with 154 breach loading rifles.

13. The following statement shows the working of the Police during the year under report:—

	19-11-42		19-12-43	
Cases reported.	...	56	...	47
Accused arrested.	...	54	...	63
Accused sent for trial	...	42	...	44
Persons convicted	...	18	...	14
Acquitted or discharged...	...	14	...	1
Accused pending trial.	...	10	...	29
Percentage of conviction...	...	56.25	...	93.3

14. The total value of property stolen and recovered during the years under report, as also the figures of percentage of recoveries are tabulated below:—

PROPERTY STOLEN AND  
RECOVERED.

	1941—42.	1942—43.
Property stolen ... Rs.	1922-11-9	1914-6-0
Property recovered. ... Rs.	601-11-6	782-10-0
Percentage of recovery.	31.2	55.2

15. There were during the period under report 21 deaths from various occurrences and 18 accidents caused by fire as shown below:—

ACCIDENT.

	1941-42	1942-43
Suicides. ...	5	1
Snake bite ...	0	6
Drowning. ...	3	2
Burns. ...	0	1
Killed by wild beasts...	0	1
Other accidents. ...	2	0
Fires. ...	14	4

16. The total expenditure of the Police Department came to Rs. 20,572 in 1941-42 and to Rs. 23,652 in 1942-43.

EXPENDITURE.

## (III) Jail.

17. There are Lock-ups at Shri Mataji, Hadad, Vijlasan (Tarsang Mahal) and Joita, and Central Jail at Danta Bhavangadh. The sanitary arrangements are very satisfactory and the discipline is very well maintained. Separate arrangements are made for male and female prisoners.

18. The general health of the prisoners was very good throughout the year under report. They do indoor works such as grinding grain and other manual labour.

19 The First Class Magistrate works ex-officio as Superintendent for Jail and the Chief Medical Officer looks after the health of prisoners.

20. Below is given the statement regarding the confinees in the Jail and Lock-ups:—

PARTICULARS.	1941-42.	1942-43.
No. of confinees at the commencement of the year... ..	37	35
No. admitted during the year. ...	50	60
Total No. of inmates. ... ..	87	95
No. of confinees released during the year. ... ..	52	66
No. of confinees at the close of the year. ... ..	35	29

## CHAPTER V.

### Production and Distribution.



The main sources of production are agriculture, cattle breeding and forest.

SOURCES OF PRODUCTION.

2. The population of the State mainly consists of agriculturists, only a few who are without the means either of land or capital and are consequently out of employment are available as day-labourers in fields or in the Public Works Department. The following statement gives an idea of the daily wages of skilled artizans and unskilled labour prevailing during the years under report:—

WAGES LABOUR AND PRICES.

	1941-42	1942-43
Unskilled labour.	Rs. 0-4 0	Rs. 0-4-6
Blacksmiths.	Rs. 1-6-0	Rs. 1-8-0
- Masons.	Rs. 1-6-0	Rs. 1-8-0
Carpenters.	Rs. 1-6-0	Rs. 1-8-0

Although rains were fairly good and the seasonal crops quite satisfactory, Their prices ruled much higher than in previous years on account of the inflation of prices throughout India due to war conditions. The prevailing prices of food-

stuffs per Kacha maund of 40 lbs are tabulated below:—

Name of the food stuff.		1941-42	1942-43
		Rs. as. ps.	Rs. as. ps.
Wheat.	...	2-12-0	4-4-0
Bajri.	...	1-14-0	3-0-0
Oats.	...	2-2-0	2-6-0
Maize.	...	1-10-0	2-12-0
Mug pulse.	...	8-2-0	8-6-0
Udad pulse.	...	6-12-0	6-4-0
Coarse-millets.	...	2-0-0	2-4-0

3. The Chief trade of the State consists in the Export of agricultural and forest produce which

#### EXPORT & IMPORT.

hardly exceeds the bare requirements

of the State subjects unless the rains are exceptionally favourable and evenly distributed. The chief items of export are wheat, maize, gram, rapeseed ghee etc., and forest products such as bamboo, baskets, gums, honey wax, white musli etc. The chief imports are sugar, cloth, salt, cereals, spices, condiments, kerosene, stationery, cutlery and other non-agricultural provisions of necessary use.

4 An ad-valorem customs duty is levied on all imports and exports in accordance with the revised schedule of rates passed and put into force from 30th October 1932.

#### CUSTOMS ON EXPORT AND IMPORTS.

The total receipts under this head during years under report amounted to Rs. 64,942 in 1941-42 and to Rs. 78,825 in 1942-43.

5. In the absence of any plants of industry and the produce of articles of competitive trade within the State, the local markets which are solely dependent on materials exported from out side, remained greatly disturbed during the year under report owing to spasmodic upheavals in the markets out-side the State.

TRADE CONDITION.

6. The existing roads were repaired and consolidated wherever necessary.

ROADS

The total length of the motorable roads in the State is 256 miles, out of which 135 miles are roads serviceable only during the 8 months of fair weather, while the roads serviceable all throughout the year even during the monsoon are 121 miles. The people of the State have thus been afforded the facilities of easy communications as far as possible.

7 Motor Lorry Services are regularly run by private individuals between (1) Shree Mataji and Danta Bhavangadh, and (2) Shree Mataji and Koteswar, for carrying passengers and goods. The State has also given a monopoly to Messrs Merwanji Rustomji & Co., of Mount Abu, to run a motor service between Shree Mataji and Abu Road. This motor service has been regularly working since 1st March 1934.

MOTOR SERVICE.

8 The Public Works Department of the State spent an aggregate sum of Rs 13,450 & Rs 17,385 during 1941-42 and 1942-43

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

respectively, on original works and repairs, during the years under report.

9 There are great possibilities of developing the forest resources of the State by laying out plantation of valuable timber, such as teak, by extraction of catechu from Khair and by propagation and culture of lac on Khakhara trees. Extraction of catechu was under taken during the years under report with success.

FOREST.

The present sources of Forest Revenue are fees charged for cutting bamboos and timber, for grazing cattle and for collecting timberu leaves, Aval bark, gums, honey, wax etc., The total Forest Revenue for the years under review amounted to Rs. 22,828 and Rs. 27,745 in 1941-42 and 1942-43 respectively.

10 There exist large deposits of marble of a superior grade and type in the vicinity of Shree Mataji. Negotiations were in the progress for their working and utilization but the exigencies of war and rationing of petrol constrained the parties concerned to postpone the enterprise till the successful end of War.

QUARRIES.

11. A monopoly for the distillation and sale of country liquor of local consumption within the limits of the State had been granted to a private individual during the past years. On the expiry of the term of the lease at the close of the 1941-42 year the monopoly system was abolished and instead the work

EXCISE & ABKARI.

in whole was resumed by the State on its own account. This step was well advised as will be evidenced by the rise in the Abkari revenue to the State in 1942-43 i. e. in the very first year of its working.

The distillery is situated at the Capital town, from which country-liquor is supplied to 22 shops for retail vend. Opium and other narcotic drugs for local consumption were imported from Government Depots at Indore and Ahmedabad. The total gross Revenue under the combined head of Excise and Abkari amounted to Rs. 25,145 and Rs 42,108 in 1941-42 and 1942-43 respectively.

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## CHAPTER VI.

### Education.

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Education, both primary and secondary, is imparted free throughout the State. The Department  
GENERAL, was under the supervision of Mr. Prahlad J. Pathak, B. A. LL. B. the Educational officer of the State, assisted by Mr. Madhavsingh B. Rao, the Educational Inspector.

2. The State maintains one Anglo-Vernacular School and a separate Girls' School at the Capital  
SCHOOL FOR BOYS. town of Danta Bhavangadh and four vernacular primary schools in the mofussil at Navowas, Shri Mataji, Punjpur and Hadad. These schools are working satisfactorily and the attendance is regular. The Anglo Vernacular School at the Capital imparts instruction in Gujarati up to VII standard and in English upto III standard.

3. The Girls School, which was started some years back, is being availed of by the public more and more every year, as is evidenced by the increasing number of girls attending it. The increase in number can be taken as a fair index of the

keen interest taken by the public for the education of their children both boys and girls, and is a very good sign of advancement and material progress of the people.

4 Moral and physical training of the students is ~~carefully~~ attended to. They are paraded everyday in their respective classes to say the morning prayers, and two periods per week are devoted to giving them moral instructions. There is a spacious playground on the outskirts of the Capital, where they are daily taken out to play cricket, football and other out-door games.

MORAL AND PHYSICAL  
TRAINING.

5. During the years under report scholarships were granted for studies outside the State, as shown below:—

SCHOLARSHIPS.

4 for Upper Secondary Education.

2 for Sanskrit and Vedic Studies.

6 On the occasions of the birthday anniversaries of Shri Maharaj Kumar Sahib and the Darbar a special programme of athletic sports for boys and girls of the school was arranged. Prizes were distributed to the winners and to those who had come out successful in the annual examinations in the presence of a large gathering of officers and citizens.

PRIZE DISTRIBUTION.

7. The total number of students on rolls and the average daily attendance during the years under report are tabulated below:—

ATTENDANCE.

PARTICULARS.		1941-42.	1942-43.
No. of students on rolls.	...	325	278
Average daily attendance.	...	228	195
Percentage of attendance.	...	65.7	61.6

8. Total expenditure on education during the years under report, including grant of scholarships, amounted to Rs. 9,898 and Rs. 14,848 during the years 1941-42 and 1942-43 respectively.

EXPENDITURE.



## CHAPTER VII.

### Medical Relief & Vital Statistic.

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There is<sup>s</sup> one Hospital at Danta Bhavangadh and one Dispensary at Shri Ambaji. Both these  
MADICAL INSTITUTIONS. institutions are entirely charitable and are equipped and maintained by the State. A new wing, consisting of an Operation Room and Lying in Wards for male and female patients, has been added to the existing Hospital at Danta Bhavangadh.

2. During the years under report the Department remained in charge of Dr. Shantilal D. Dave,  
PERSONNEL. M. B. B. S., ( Bom ), the Cheif Medical Officer of the State. He was assisted in his duties by Dr. Bansidhar Sharma, L. M. P., the Assist<sup>z</sup>ent Medical Officer.

3. At both the centres in and out-patients were treated free of all cost and urgent cases in the  
MEDICAL RELIEF. mofussil areas, too, were attended without charging any fees. The total number of out-door and in-door

patients treated, and the ~~and the~~ averages of daily attendance for the two years under report are tabulated below:—

PARTICULARS.	1941-42.	1942-43.
No. of out-door patients treated...	32,585	40,612
No. of in-door patients treated...	31	22
Average of daily attendance. ...	89.3	111.2

4. Surgical Operations performed numbered 175 & 246 during the years 1941-42 & 1942-43 respectively.

SURGICAL OPERATIONS.

5 Principal diseases and ailments treated during the year, were mostly of the digestive system, respiratory system, of the eye, ears, nose, throat and intestinal parasites, venereal diseases, local and general injuries, wounds, fevers and septic ulcers, and tumours.

DISEASES.

6 There was no outbreak of epidemic in virulent form during the period under report though a few cases of malaria in 1941-42 and those of typhoid in sporadic form were recorded during the closing months of 1942-43. No cases of guinea-worms occurred as the wells as usual, were disinfected as a precautionary measure.

EPIDEMICS.

7. The health of the public in general was satisfactory throughout the period under review.

8. No<sub>x</sub> case of hydrophobia occurred. In all four cases of snake bite were recorded, three of which were successfully attended and the remaining could not be treated as the patient died on his way to the hospital.

## ANTI-RABID TREATMENT.

9. 740 and 910 persons were vaccinated during 1941-42 and 1942-43 respectively with the lymph imported from Belgaum Vaccine Institute.

## VACCINATION.

10. The total expenditure incurred during the year for medical relief including vaccination and sanitary arrangements amounted to Rs. 10,858 and Rs. 15,455 in 1941-42 and 1942-43 respectively.

## EXPENDITURE.

11. The total number of births and deaths recorded during the period under review are tabulated below:—

## VITAL STATISTICS.

PARTICULARS.				1941-42.	1942-43.
No. of births.	...	...	...	318	567
No. of deaths.	...	...	...	201	305

## CHAPTER VIII.

### Miscellaneous.



There are various old places of interest in the State from the religious point of view as well as from the point of view, both of architecture and natural scenery. The chief celebrated places among them are as noted below.

PLACES OF INTEREST  
AND FAIRS HELD.

**Shree Ambaji:**—This is a very ancient and sacred place where there is a holy shrine of Shree Ambika Mataji. The temple is dedicated to the Divine Mother and is annually visited by thousands of pilgrims from all parts of India. Fairs are held every full-moon day and during Navratri days.

**Koteshwar:**—This is a temple of God Shiva, situated on the hill slopes and at the source of the holy river Sarsvati and is at a distance of 4 miles from Shree Mataji. All pilgrims visiting Shree Mataji go to this sacred place also.

**Kumbharia:**—These are a collections of five Jain old temples built by Vimalshah in the 11th century. They are built of local marble and contain fine specimens of exquisite carving. They are two miles away from Shree Mataji. Many Jains and other pilgrims come here to pay homage to the wonderful marble images.

**Mokeshwar:**—This is a cave temple of God Shiva on the bank of the river Sarsvati. A fair is annually held on the 11th day of the bright half of Bhadrapad.

**Maneknath:**—This is a cave temple on Maneknath hill in the Tarsang Mahal so called after a very famous Hindu Saint of the 15th century. A fair is held annually on the Gokul Ashtami day.

**Sitla Mata:**—This is a temple near Pethapur. A fair is held here on the Sitla Saptami day in the month of Shravan every year.

**Chamundaji:**—This is a temple near Vasi. A fair is held here in the month of Ashad every year.

2. The State is served by the Indian Posts and Telegraph Department. There is a combined  
POST & TELEGRAPH. Post and Telegraph Office at Danta Bhavangadh and a branch Post Office at Shree Mataji.

3. The State maintains a Telephone system of its own  
TELEPHONE. connecting important Thana of the State to the Capital. It has greatly facilitated the administrative machinery and especially the work of the public servants in speedily checking and detecting crimes.

4. There is one Flour Mill at the Capital, belonging to  
FLOUR MILLS. the State.



5. Shree Mataji town, being an important town of pilgrimage receiving large influx of population periodically, has been provided with the modern amenities of water

ELECTRICITY AND WATER  
SUPPLY.

supply and electricity. Both the supply schemes are working satisfactorily. The Darbar have under contemplation a scheme for electrification of the capital town of Danta Bhavangadh, but it had to be deferred as the necessary plant and machinery is not easily available at present due to the exigencies of war.

6. The success of the Administration as evinced in the foregoing pages is mainly due to the sympathetic guidance, able direction, great care and personal supervision of the Darbar to whom my most grateful, and profound thanks are due. My warm appreciation and thanks are also due to the Officers of the State for their hearty co-operation.

CONCLUSION

DANTA-BHAVANGADH

*Dated 31st March 1944*

}

*Prithi Singh,*  
Maharaj,  
Dewan, Danta State.

